

Meshomasic Hiking Club Summer 2018 Schedule of Events

<http://meshomasichikingclub.org>

Ratings: A=very rough terrain, elevation gain over 1000 ft.; B=difficult terrain, elevation gain 500-1000 ft.; C=average terrain, moderate up and down; D=flat, little or no elevation change; E=exploratory, be prepared for anything; P=paddle; 1=fast; 2=brisk; 3=average; 4=slow

FOR THE ENJOYMENT AND SAFETY OF EVERYONE, PLEASE KNOW YOUR LIMITS AND HIKE TO YOUR ABILITY

Sunday, July 1, 9:00a - Case Mountain, Manchester: A roughly 6-mile hike on various trails in Case Mountain Park with a few views from Lookout Mountain. Options to cut hike short if you are willing to walk back on your own. Early snack/lunch at the summit. Rating: C3. Kids and well-managed dogs OK. Hiking boots only. Bring food and plenty to drink. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the Case Pond lot on Birch Mountain Road in Manchester. From I-384 east, take exit 4 and at end of exit take a left on Wyllys Street. Take a right at traffic light onto Highland Street (Route 534) and immediately after passing under I-384, take right onto Birch Mountain Road, finally right into parking lot. RSVP by 06/30 to Jeff at 860-794-9739.

Tuesday, July 3, 8:30a - Shenipsit Trail, East Hampton: An approximately six-mile hike east on blue blazed trails. Rating: C2. Kids and well-managed dogs OK. Hiking boots only. Bring water. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the parking site off Woodchopper Road in East Hampton. RSVP by 07/02 to Alan at 860-510-3870.

Wednesday, July 4, 9:00a - Aspinook Pond and Lower Quinebaug River, Canterbury: A paddle of 6 to 8 miles out and back on the flat water of Aspinook Pond and the Quinebaug River north of the pond. Rating: P3. No kids but well-managed dogs OK. Provide your own boat with a PFD and a safety whistle. Bring lunch and drinks. Thunderstorms cancel. Meet at the commuter parking lot at the junction of Routes 16 and 66 in East Hampton at 9:00 or at the Quinebaug River Water Trail parking area off Butts Bridge Road at 9:40. Take exit 19 from I-395 north and turn left on Route 169. In 5.3 miles turn right on Route 668 (Butts Bridge Road) and cross Butts Bridge. In ¼ mile turn right on a dirt road to the launch. RSVP by 07/04 to Tony at 860-490-5584 or arazel@comcast.net.

Thursday, July 5, 8:30a - Roaring Brook and Indian Council Caves, Barkhamsted: A 6-mile hike to a beautiful waterfall and gorge with bushwhacking. Rating: C3. No kids but well-managed dogs OK. Hiking boots only. Bring lunch and drinks. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the Portland Police Station parking lot on Main Street between Freestone and Waverly Avenues. RSVP by 07/04 to John at 860-342-0658.

Thursdays, July 5 through September 22, 9:00a - Hurd State Park, East Hampton: This hike happens each Thursday at the same location but check with Chantal in case of a change. We do a 3.6-mile loop at a good pace with a fairly-steep climb of 300 feet. We complete the loop at 10:30 am. Rating: B2. No kids but friendly, well-managed dogs are welcome. Hiking boots only. Bring drinks. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the Hurd Park winter parking lot at the intersection of Route 151 (Middle Haddam Road) and Hurd Park Road at the traffic light. From Route 66 in Cobalt, take Route 151 south for 2.5 miles. RSVP by the day prior to Chantal at 860-573-2946.

Thursday, July 5, 6:30p - Hammonasset Beach Walk, Madison: An approximately 4-mile evening hike on the beach. Joint hike with the New Haven Hiking Club. Feast at Lenny & Joe's Fish Tale after hike. Rating: D3. Kids and well-managed dogs OK. Sneakers are OK. Bring drinks and sunglasses. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the Meigs Point Nature Center parking lot inside Hammonasset Beach State Park. RSVP by 07/04 to Larry at L: 860-767-0180, C: 860-301-2926.

Friday, July 6, 9:00a - Tritown Ridgeline Forest Exploratory, Griswold: A 6-mile hike through a recently purchased 400-acre preserve. Some bushwhacking is likely. Rating: E3. No kids but well-managed dogs OK. Hiking boots only. Bring lunch and drinks. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the commuter parking lot at the junction of Routes 16 and 66 in East Hampton. RSVP by 07/05 to John at 860-342-0658.

Saturday, July 7, 9:00a - Devil's Hopyard State Park, East Haddam: A brisk hike of approximately 6 miles with interesting views. There will be an option to quit after 4 miles. Rating: C3. Kids and well-managed dogs OK. Hiking boots only. Bring lunch and drinks. Steady rain cancels. Meet at the Chapman Falls parking lot at the Hopyard. From Moodus, take Route 151 (Town Street) south for 2.8 miles, turn left on Mt. Parnassus Road (Route 434), drive 5.9 miles, turn right on Hopyard Road (Route 434), drive 0.8 miles for a left turn on Foxtown Road. The lot is on the left immediately. RSVP by 07/06 to Connie at 860-690-9391 or crokicki3@sbcglobal.net.

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FOR THE ENJOYMENT AND SAFETY OF EVERYONE, PLEASE KNOW YOUR LIMITS AND HIKE TO YOUR ABILITY

Sunday, July 8, 8:45a - Walden Preserve Butterfly Hike, Salem: A 4- to 5-mile slow-paced hike through gently rolling fields and trails to search for some of the over 50 species of butterflies observed at this preserve. Held in conjunction with the Connecticut Butterfly Association and the Salem Land Trust. Ice cream to follow at Salem Valley Farms. Rating: D3. Kids OK but no dogs. Sneakers are OK. Bring snack & water. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the Colchester commuter parking lot on Route 16 just west of Route 2, exit 18. Possible carpool from Routes 66 and 16 commuter lot. Discuss with Andrea. RSVP by 07/07 to Andrea at 860-873-8867.

Tuesday, July 10, 8:30a - Shenipsit Trail, East Hampton: An approximately six-mile hike west on blue blazed trails. Rating: C2. Kids and well-managed dogs OK. Hiking boots only. Bring water. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the parking site off Woodchopper Road in East Hampton. RSVP by 07/09 to Alan at 860-510-3870.

Tuesday, July 10, 9:00a - Mashapaug Pond (Bigelow Hollow S.P.), Union: A 6- to 8-mile paddle in a beautiful lake in northern Connecticut. Time allotted for swimming. Rating: P3. No kids but well-managed dogs OK. Provide your own boat with a PFD and a safety whistle. Bring lunch and drinks. Thunderstorms cancel. Meet at the Portland Police Station parking lot on Main Street between Freestone and Waverly Avenues at 9:00 OR at the Mashapaug boat launch in Bigelow Hollow S. P. at 9:50. RSVP by 07/10 to Tony at 860-490-5584 or arazel@comcast.net.

Wednesday, July 11, 9:00a - Miller's Pond Hike and Swim, Durham: A 6-mile hike on state park trails followed by a swim in a popular lake. Rating: C3. No kids but well-managed dogs OK. Hiking boots only. Bring lunch and drinks. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the Portland Police Station parking lot on Main Street between Freestone and Waverly Avenues. RSVP by 07/10 to John at 860-342-0658.

Friday, July 13, 9:00a - Connecticut River in Segments - Hadlyme Ferry Boat Launch to Elys Ferry Road, Lyme: A paddle of 6 to 9 miles down the CT River from the Hadlyme Ferry Boat Launch to Elys Ferry Road. A car spot is necessary. Rating: P2. No kids but well-managed dogs OK. Provide your own boat with a PFD and a safety whistle. Bring lunch and drinks. Thunderstorms cancel. Meet at the commuter parking lot at the junction of Routes 16 and 66 in East Hampton at 9:00 or at the Hadlyme Ferry launch at 9:30. RSVP by 07/13 to Tony at 860-490-5584 or arazel@comcast.net.

Saturday, July 14, 7:00a - Meshomasic State Forest exploratory, Portland: This will be a 10- to 12-mile loop hike exploring the state forest. Rating: E3. No kids but well-managed dogs OK. Hiking boots only. Bring lunch and drink. Bad weather cancels and extreme heat shortens. Meet at the Hemlock Grange parking lot on Sage Hollow Road, just east of the junction of Routes 17 and 17A Portland. RSVP by 07/13 to Steve by text or phone at 860-301-8661.

Sunday, July 15, 9:00a - Connecticut College Arboretum, Waterford: A 5-mile hike on an island, in a gorge, through the Perry Natural Area, and in the tree-ID park and gardens in the arboretum. Rating: C3. Kids OK but no dogs. Hiking boots recommended. Bring lunch and drinks. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the parking lot at approximately 852 Williams Street or on the street by the entrance to the Arboretum. Access Williams Street from exit 83 of I-95 or from Route 32 by turning right on Benham Avenue then left on Old Norwich Road which becomes Williams Street. RSVP by 07/14 to Bob at 860-942-2505.

Tuesday, July 17, 8:30a - Day Pond State Park, Colchester: A hike of 5 to 7 miles. Rating: C1. No kids or dogs. Hiking boots only. Bring water and snacks. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the Covered Bridge parking lot on Comstock Bridge Road off Route 16 just west of the Salmon River in East Hampton. RSVP by 07/16 to Alan at 860-510-3870.

Wednesday, July 18, 9:00a - Farmington Canal Trail, Collinsville: An 8- to 10-mile hike on a paved rail trail along the Farmington River. Rating: D3. No kids but well-managed dogs OK. Sneakers are OK. Bring lunch and drinks. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the Portland Police Station parking lot on Main Street between Freestone and Waverly Avenues. RSVP by 07/17 to John at 860-342-0658.

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Sunday, July 22, 9:30a - Harkness Memorial State Park, Waterford: Come and hike a gentle 4 miles in one of Connecticut's most beautiful state parks featuring a wildlife marsh preserve, shoreline beach, stunning views, historic gardens, mansion tour, and oodles of charm from a bygone era everywhere. Learn more at www.harkness.org Rating: C3. Kids and well-managed dogs OK. Sneakers are OK. Bring water, snacks, and sunscreen. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the main state park parking area at 9:30 am for mansion tour at 9:45. Parking/admission to all state parks is now free if you have CT license plates on your car. Address is 275 Great Neck Road, Waterford. From I-95 South: Go to exit 81. At the end of the ramp, turn left onto access road and proceed to stop light. At light, turn left onto Cross Road and continue to intersection with Boston Post Road, Route 1. Turn left and continue to light at Avery Lane; turn right. Avery will become Great Neck Road, route 213. The park will be two miles ahead on the right. From I-95 North: Go to exit 75, bear right at end of exit ramp and proceed onto Boston Post Road, Route 1. Go 3 miles to Avery Lane and proceed as described above. RSVP by 07/21 to Laurette at 860-614-4021 or laurettesaller@gmail.com. Dogs are not allowed in the mansion and must be leashed in the park.

Tuesday, July 24, 8:30a - Gulf Road to Leesville Dam, East Hampton/East Haddam: A hike of 5 to 7 miles. Rating: D1. No kids or dogs. Sneakers are OK. Bring water and snacks. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the Covered Bridge parking lot on Comstock Bridge Road off Route 16 just west of the Salmon River in East Hampton. RSVP by 07/23 to Alan at 860-510-3870.

Tuesday, July 24, 9:00a - Connecticut River in Segments - Salmon River State Boat Launch to Hadlyme Ferry Boat Launch, East Haddam: A paddle of 4 to 6.5 miles down the CT River from the Salmon River State Boat Launch to the Hadlyme Ferry Boat Launch. A car spot is necessary. Rating: P2. No kids but well-managed dogs OK. Provide your own boat with a PFD and a safety whistle. Bring lunch and drinks. Thunderstorms cancel. Meet at the commuter parking lot at the junction of Routes 16 and 66 in East Hampton at 9:00 or at the Salmon River State Boat Launch on the CT River off Route 151 at 9:15. RSVP by 07/24 to Tony at 860-490-5584 or arazel@comcast.net.

Wednesday, July 25, 9:00a - Barn Island, Stonington: A 6-mile hike in a state wildlife management area on Long Island Sound Rating: D3. No kids but well-managed dogs OK. Hiking boots only. Bring lunch and drinks. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the Portland Police Station parking lot on Main Street between Freestone and Waverly Avenues. RSVP by 07/24 to John at 860-342-0658.

Friday, July 27, 7:00p - Night Paddle on Upper Moodus Reservoir, East Haddam: An evening paddle of about 6 miles to enjoy the full moonrise on a pleasant reservoir with many inlets and much wildlife. Rating: P3. No kids but well-managed dogs OK. Provide your own boat with a PFD and a safety whistle. Bring drinks. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the commuter parking lot at the junction of Routes 16 and 66 in East Hampton or at the launch parking lot at the end of Launching Area Road at 7:15. RSVP by 07/27 to Tony at 860-490-5584 or arazel@comcast.net.

Saturday, July 28, 4:00p - Mt. Trashmore and Riverfront Parks, Hartford: A 6-mile hike along the CT River to a "mountain" vista. Pizza to follow. Rating: D3. No kids but well-managed dogs OK. Hiking boots only. Bring snack and drinks. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the Hemlock Grange parking lot on Sage Hollow Road, just east of the junction of Routes 17 and 17A Portland. RSVP by 07/27 to John at 860-342-0658.

Sunday, July 29, 7:00a - Chauncey Peak and Mountain Lamentation, Meriden: This will be a 6- to 7-mile hike with beautiful views and two main ups and downs. Rating: B2. Kids who can keep up are welcome as are well-managed dogs. Hiking boots only. Bring snack & drink. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the Portland Police Station parking lot on Main Street between Freestone and Waverly Avenues at 7:00 OR at Giuffrida Park on Westfield Rd in Meriden at 7:20. RSVP by 07/28 to Steve by text or phone at 860-301-8661.

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Tuesday, July 31, 8:30a - Air Line Trail, Colchester: A hike of 5 to 7 miles toward Colchester. Rating: D1. No kids but well-managed dogs OK. Sneakers are OK. Bring water and snacks. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the Bull Hill Road parking area. Bull Hill Road can be accessed from Comstock Bridge Road to Bull Hill Road. The parking area is up the hill. RSVP by 07/30 to Alan at 860-510-3870.

Wednesday, August 1, 9:00a - Holcomb Farm Preserve, West Granby: A 6-mile hike to a waterfall. Rating: C3. No kids but well-managed dogs OK. Hiking boots only. Bring lunch and drinks. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the Portland Police Station parking lot on Main Street between Freestone and Waverly Avenues. RSVP by 07/31 to John at 860-342-0658.

Friday, August 3, 8:00a - Exploratory Return to Baldwin Cave, Cornwall: A 6-mile hike to resume search for a lost cave, including a trek through the famous ghost town of Dudleytown. Rating: E3. No kids but well-managed dogs OK. Hiking boots only. Bring lunch and drinks. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the Portland Police Station parking lot on Main Street between Freestone and Waverly Avenues. RSVP by 08/02 to John at 860-342-0658.

Saturday, August 4, 9:00a - Nehantic State Forest, Hadlyme: A 6-mile hike using the Nayantaquit Trail and mountain-bike trails to explore a large block of state forest, including pond views, rock steps, ledges, erratics, and a balanced boulder. Rating: C3. Kids and well-managed dogs OK. Hiking boots only. Bring food and drinks. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the first yellow gate on Keene Road (dirt), which turns off the east side of Route 156 south of Hamburg Cove (Reynolds Subaru). Look for the State Forest sign to find Keene Road, south of a farm. RSVP by 08/03 to Bob at 860-942-2505.

Monday, August 6, 9:00a - Connecticut River in Segments - Rock Landing Road to the Salmon River State Boat Launch, East Haddam: A paddle of 4 to 6.5 miles down the CT River from Rock Landing Road boat launch (Haddam Neck) to the Salmon River State Boat Launch. A car spot is necessary. Rating: P2. No kids but well-managed dogs OK. Provide your own boat with a PFD and a safety whistle. Bring lunch and drinks. Thunderstorms cancel. Meet at the commuter parking lot at the junction of Routes 16 and 66 in East Hampton at 9:00 or at the boat launch at the end of Rock Landing Road on the CT River in Haddam Neck at 9:15. RSVP by 08/06 to Tony at 860-490-5584 or arazel@comcast.net.

Tuesday, August 7, 8:30a - Machimoodus State Park, East Haddam: A hike of 5 or more miles. Rating: C1. No kids or dogs. Sneakers are OK. Bring water and snacks. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the Machimoodus State Park on Route 151 in East Haddam. From Routes 66 and 151 in the center of the Cobalt section of East Hampton, drive south on 151 for 6.7 miles. The park will be on the right. RSVP by 08/06 to Alan at 860-510-3870.

Wednesday, August 8, 9:00a - North Farms, North Branford: A 6-mile hike in a town preserve along the Branford River. Rating: D3. No kids but well-managed dogs OK. Hiking boots only. Bring lunch and drinks. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the Portland Police Station parking lot on Main Street between Freestone and Waverly Avenues. RSVP by 08/07 to John at 860-342-0658.

Friday, August 10, 9:00a - Summer Picnic at Gillette Castle State Park, East Haddam: A 3-mile hike through a state park, followed by a picnic at the pond. Rating: C3. Kids and well-managed dogs OK. Sneakers are OK. Bring food and drink to share. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the commuter parking lot at the junction of Routes 16 and 66 in East Hampton. RSVP by 08/09 to Chantal at 860-573-2946.

Saturday, August 11, 7:00a - Westwoods, Guilford: An approximately 11-mile hike with many ups, downs, and views. We will pass by/through interesting rock formations. Rating: C1. No kids but well-managed dogs OK. Hiking boots only. Bring lunch and drink. Bad weather cancels and extreme heat shortens. Meet at the Portland Police Station parking lot on Main Street between Freestone and Waverly Avenues at 7:00 OR at the commuter lot on the west side of Route 77 just off Route 95 in Guilford at 7:45. RSVP by 08/10 to Steve by text or phone at 860-301-8661.

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Sunday, August 12, 9:00a - The Preserve, Old Saybrook: An approximately 8-mile hike in a new preserve. Joint hike with the New Haven Hiking Club. Rating: C3. Kids and well-managed dogs OK. Hiking boots only. Bring lunch and drinks. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the Westbrook parking lot on Route 153. Take Route 9 south to exit 3. At end of exit go straight to the stop sign then turn right onto Route 153. In approximately 2.5 miles turn into the parking lot on the left next to a blue-gray house. From I-95 exit 65 go north on 153 for approximately 2 miles to the lot on the right next to a blue-gray house. RSVP by 08/11 to Larry at L: 860-767-0180, C: 860-301-2926.

Tuesday, August 14, 8:30a - Air Line Trail Spur, Colchester: A 6.6-mile out and back hike on level ground of an old rail spur to the Air Line Trail. Rating: D1. No kids but well-managed dogs OK. Sneakers are OK. Bring water and snacks. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the commuter parking lot at the junction of Routes 16 and 66 in East Hampton or at the Colchester station house off Route 16 (Lebanon Road) 0.4 mile northeast of Main Street in Colchester at 9:00. RSVP by 08/13 to Alan at 860-510-3870.

Wednesday, August 15, 8:30a - West Thompson Dam Recreation Area, Thompson: A 6-mile hike where the town of West Thompson was flooded to create a reservoir. We will see old foundations and stone walls. Rating: C3. No kids but well-managed dogs OK. Hiking boots only. Bring lunch and drinks. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the commuter parking lot at the junction of Routes 16 and 66 in East Hampton. RSVP by 08/14 to John at 860-342-0658.

Saturday, August 18, 4:00p - Riverfront Park and Mount Trashmore, Portland: A 6-mile hike to include a walk over the Arrigoni Bridge. Pizza to follow. Rating: C3. No kids but well-managed dogs OK. Hiking boots only. Bring snack and drinks. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the Portland Police Station parking lot on Main Street between Freestone and Waverly Avenues. RSVP by 08/17 to John at 860-342-0658.

Tuesday, August 21, 8:30a - George Dudley Seymour State Park, Haddam Neck: A 5-mile exploratory hike which will connect with Hurd State Park. Rating: C2. No kids but well-managed dogs OK. Hiking boots only. Bring water and snacks. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the end of Clarkhurst Road in Haddam Neck. Drive south on Route 151 from Route 66 in Cobalt for 2.5 miles. Turn right on Hurd Park Road, drive 1.3 miles, then turn right on Clarkhurst Road. RSVP by 08/20 to Alan at 860-510-3870.

Tuesday, August 21, 9:00a - Connecticut River Paddle & Swim, South Windsor: A return to the best beach in the world. Perfect quality sand with clear swimming holes winding between small islands will make for a unique experience. Rating: P3. No kids but well-managed dogs OK. Provide your own boat with a PFD and a safety whistle. Bring lunch and drinks and swim wear. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the Portland Police Station parking lot on Main Street between Freestone and Waverly Avenues at 9:00 or the Vibert Road boat launch in South Windsor at 9:40. RSVP by 08/21 to Tony at 860-490-5584 or arazel@comcast.net.

Wednesday, August 22, 9:00a - Bittner Park, Guilford: A 5-mile hike in a town preserve along the West River. Rating: D3. No kids but well-managed dogs OK. Hiking boots only. Bring lunch and drinks. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the Portland Police Station parking lot on Main Street between Freestone and Waverly Avenues. RSVP by 08/21 to John at 860-342-0658.

Friday, August 24, 9:00a - Connecticut River in Segments - Oakum Dock Road launch to Rock Landing Road launch, East Hampton: A paddle of 6 to 10 miles down the CT River from Oakum Dock Road launch in Cobalt to Rock Landing Road boat launch in Haddam Neck. A car spot is necessary. Rating: P2. No kids but well-managed dogs OK. Provide your own boat with a PFD and a safety whistle. Bring lunch and drinks. Thunderstorms cancel. Meet at the commuter parking lot at the junction of Routes 16 and 66 in East Hampton at 9:00. RSVP by 08/24 to Tony at 860-490-5584 or arazel@comcast.net.

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Saturday, August 25, 6:30a - Night Paddle on Upper Moodus Reservoir, East Haddam: An evening paddle of about 6 miles to enjoy the full moonrise on a pleasant reservoir with many inlets and much wildlife. Rating: P3. No kids but well-managed dogs OK. Provide your own boat with a PFD and a safety whistle. Bring drinks. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the commuter parking lot at the junction of Routes 16 and 66 in East Hampton or at the launch parking lot at the end of Launching Area Road at 6:45. RSVP by 08/25 to Tony at 860-490-5584 or arazel@comcast.net.

Sunday, August 26, 7:00a - Day Pond State Park, Colchester: This will be about an 8-mile hike mostly in Day Pond State park. We will visit a waterfall. Rating: B2. Kids who can keep up are welcome as are well-managed dogs. Hiking boots only. Bring snack & drink. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the commuter lot at the junction of Routes 16 and 66 in East Hampton at 7:00 or the Comstock Bridge parking lot on Route 16 just west of the Salmon River in East Hampton at 7:15. RSVP by 08/25 to Steve by text or phone at 860-301-8661.

Tuesday, August 28, 8:30a - Air Line Trail, East Hampton/Colchester: A six-mile hike. Rating: D1. No kids or dogs. Sneakers are OK. Bring water and snacks. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the Bull Hill Road parking area. Bull Hill Road can be accessed from Comstock Bridge Road to Bull Hill Road. The parking area is up the hill. RSVP by 08/27 to Alan at 860-510-3870.

Tuesday, August 28, 9:00a - Little Narragansett Bay and Napatree Point, Stonington and Westerly, RI: A paddle of 4 to 6 miles in Little Narragansett Bay visiting Sandy Point and Napatree Point. We will walk across Napatree Point to a sandy beach on the Block Island Sound. There will be time allotted for swimming in the Sound and a walk to Watch Hill Point. Rating: P2. No kids or dogs. Provide your own boat with a PFD and a safety whistle. Bring lunch and drinks. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the commuter parking lot at the junction of Routes 16 and 66 in East Hampton or at the launch parking lot at the end of Palmer Neck Road at the Barn Island W.M.A. at 10 am. RSVP by 08/28 to Tony at 860-490-5584 or arazel@comcast.net.

Wednesday, August 29, 8:30a - Haystack Mountain and the Billings Trail, Norfolk: A 6-mile hike on an old railroad bed with a climb up a tower with a vista. Rating: C3. No kids but well-managed dogs OK. Hiking boots only. Bring lunch and drinks. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the Portland Police Station parking lot on Main Street between Freestone and Waverly Avenues. RSVP by 08/28 to John at 860-342-0658.

Thursday, August 30, 7:00a - Activities Planning Meeting, East Hampton: Come join us to plan the hikes, paddles, and other activities of your club. Even if you are not ready to lead a trip, please come see what this planning is all about. Bring your ideas for club events. Meet at the Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 1 East High Street, East Hampton. Park in the lot (off Route 66) next to the church which is on the northeast corner of Route 66 (High Street) and Main Street, East Hampton. Enter by the back door adjacent to the parking lot. RSVP by 08/30 to Tony at 860-490-5584 or arazel@comcast.net.

Saturday, September 1, 9:00a - Mansfield Hollow State Park, Mansfield: A 5-mile circuit of the portion of the lake north of the Bassett's Bridge boat launch using the Nipmuck Trail and ski trails. Rating: C3. Kids and well-managed dogs OK. Hiking boots only. Bring food and drinks. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the parking lot just past the causeway, east of the boat launch, on Bassett's Bridge Road. Traveling east on Route 6, take the exit for Route 195/UCONN, at the intersection go straight on Route 633, then turn left on Route 195 (Storrs Road). Turn right on Bassett's Bridge Road in 2.1 miles. RSVP by 08/31 to Bob at 860-942-2505.

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Monday, September 3, 9:00a - Bolton Notch to Risley Reservoir, Bolton: A roughly 6-mile hike through the Notch with nice views of the Notch Pond and then on to the Risley Reservoir. Post-hike swim/cookout at nearby Bolton Lake. Rating: C3. Kids and well-managed dogs OK. Hiking boots only. Bring food and plenty to drink. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the Bolton Notch commuter lot. From I-384, take exit 5, left at end of exit, right at light onto Route 44 east, go up hill, and as you pass Georgina's Restaurant the road divides. Take the next left onto Morancey Road and drive to the end for the commuter lot. RSVP by 09/02 to Jeff at 860-794-9739.

Tuesday, September 4, 8:30a - Hurd Park Green Trail, East Hampton: A 6-mile loop around Hurd Park beginning on the Green Trail and returning to the winter lot. Rating: C1. No kids but well-managed dogs OK. Hiking boots recommended. Bring water and snacks. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the Hurd Park winter parking lot at the intersection of Route 151 (Middle Haddam Road) and Hurd Park Road at the traffic light. From Route 66 in Cobalt, take Route 151 south for 2.5 miles. RSVP by 09/03 to Alan at 860-510-3870.

Wednesday, September 5, 9:00a - New Air Line Trail, Portland: A 6-mile hike including a visit to a land trust preserve and a waterfall. Rating: C3. No kids but well-managed dogs OK. Hiking boots only. Bring lunch and drinks. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the commuter parking lot at the junction of Routes 16 and 66 in East Hampton. RSVP by 09/04 to John at 860-342-0658.

Thursday, September 6, 3:00p - Swallow Migration Paddle & Boil-up, Old Lyme: A 4-mile paddle in a tidal creek at the Connecticut River followed by a boil-up on sandy Calves Island and viewing of the gathering of thousands of swallows over Goose Island. Rating: P3. No kids but well-managed dogs OK. Provide your own boat with a PFD and a safety whistle. Bring drinks and cookout food to share. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the Portland Police Station parking lot on Main Street between Freestone and Waverly Avenues at 3:00 or at the launch site at the end of Pilgrim Landing Road off Route 156 at 3:30 or if you wish to skip the boil-up at 6:00 pm. RSVP by 09/06 to Tony at 860-490-5584 or arazel@comcast.net.

Friday, September 7, 9:00a - Rock Rimmon Revisited, Beacon Falls: Further exploration of trails in the area. Rating: E3. No kids but well-managed dogs OK. Hiking boots only. Bring lunch and drinks. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the Portland Police Station parking lot on Main Street between Freestone and Waverly Avenues. RSVP by 09/06 to John at 860-342-0658.

Saturday, September 8, 8:00a - Talcott Mountain and Penwood State Parks, Avon / Simsbury: This will be a 12- to 13-mile hike (with a chance to bail after 7 miles) with many ups, downs, and beautiful views. Rating: B2. No kids but well-managed dogs OK. Hiking boots only. Bring lunch and drink. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the Portland Police Station parking lot on Main Street between Freestone and Waverly Avenues at 8:00 OR at the Penwood State Park parking lot off Route 185 in Simsbury at 8:40. RSVP by 09/07 to Steve by text or phone at 860-301-8661.

Sunday, September 9, 9:00a - Grayville Falls Park, Hebron: A 7-mile hike on the Orange Arrow Trail through the back country of Salmon River State Forest. Featuring: a long millpond, multiple ridges, and shady solitude. Lunch on a ledge. Rating: C3. Kids and well-managed dogs OK. Hiking boots only. Bring food and drinks. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the parking lot for Grayville Falls Park. Take Route 66 and turn south on Route 85 at Hebron. Drive 1.0 mile and turn right on Hope Valley Road, continuing as it becomes Reidy Hill Road. Drive to the end of the road, about 2.7 miles. RSVP by 09/08 to Bob at 860-942-2505.

Tuesday, September 11, 8:30a - Devil's Hopyard State Park, East Haddam: An approximately 5-mile hike on yellow and red trails. Rating: C2. Kids and well-managed dogs OK. Hiking boots only. Bring water. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the State Park parking lot on Hopyard Road. RSVP by 09/10 to Alan at 860-510-3870.

Meshomasic Hiking Club Summer 2018 Schedule of Events

<http://meshomasichikingclub.org>

Ratings: A=very rough terrain, elevation gain over 1000 ft.; B=difficult terrain, elevation gain 500-1000 ft.; C=average terrain, moderate up and down; D=flat, little or no elevation change; E=exploratory, be prepared for anything; P=paddle; 1=fast; 2=brisk; 3=average; 4=slow

FOR THE ENJOYMENT AND SAFETY OF EVERYONE, PLEASE KNOW YOUR LIMITS AND HIKE TO YOUR ABILITY

Tuesday, September 11, 9:00a - Connecticut River in Segments - Cromwell boat launch to Oakum Dock Road launch, Cromwell / Middletown / Portland: A paddle of 6 to 9 miles down the CT River from the state boat launch in Cromwell to the launch at Oakum Dock Road in Cobalt. A car spot is necessary. Rating: P2. No kids but well-managed dogs OK. Provide your own boat with a PFD and a safety whistle. Bring lunch and drinks. Thunderstorms cancel. Meet at the Portland Police Station parking lot on Main Street between Freestone and Waverly Avenues at 9:00 or the state boat launch at the end of River Road near the southern end of Route 99 in Cromwell at 9:10. RSVP by 09/11 to Tony at 860-490-5584 or arazel@comcast.net.

Wednesday, September 12, 9:00a - Air Line and Hop River Trails, Willimantic: An 8- to 10-mile hike on rail trails. Visit to WilliBrew at the old post office after hike. Rating: D3. No kids but well-managed dogs OK. Sneakers are OK. Bring lunch and drinks. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the commuter parking lot at the junction of Routes 16 and 66 in East Hampton. RSVP by 09/11 to John at 860-342-0658.

Tuesday, September 18, 9:00a - Chatfield Hollow State Park, Killingworth: A 6-mile hike on the west loop. Rating: C1. No kids or dogs. Hiking boots only. Bring water and snacks. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the Chatfield Hollow State Park lot on Route 80. From Route 9 take exit 9, follow route 81 south and then take route 80 west (right) for 1.1 miles to park entrance on right. RSVP by 09/17 to Alan at 860-510-3870.

Wednesday, September 19, 9:00a - Hockanum River Linear Trail, Manchester: A 6-mile river walk including the Oakland Trail and Doug Smith Island. Rating: D3. No kids but well-managed dogs OK. Hiking boots only. Bring lunch and drinks. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the Portland Police Station parking lot on Main Street between Freestone and Waverly Avenues. RSVP by 09/18 to John at 860-342-0658.

Friday, September 21, 9:00a - Connecticut River in Segments - Rocky Hill Ferry to Cromwell boat launch, Rocky Hill / Cromwell: A paddle of 7 to 10 miles down the CT River from the state boat launch at the Rocky Hill Ferry (Rocky Hill side) to the launch in Cromwell. A car spot is necessary. Rating: P2. No kids but well-managed dogs OK. Provide your own boat with a PFD and a safety whistle. Bring lunch and drinks. Thunderstorms cancel. Meet at the Portland Police Station parking lot on Main Street between Freestone and Waverly Avenues at 9:00 or the state boat launch on Meadow Road in Rocky Hill at the Rocky Hill Ferry at 9:20. RSVP by 09/21 to Tony at 860-490-5584 or arazel@comcast.net.

Saturday, September 22, 9:00a - Case Mountain, Manchester: A roughly 9-mile hike from Case Pond Lot to Lookout Mountain Summit then following the Shenipsit Trail to John Tom Loop/Pine Ledge/Garnet Ledge and back. Options to cut hike short if you are willing to walk back on your own. Rating: C3. Kids and well-managed dogs OK. Hiking boots only. Bring food and plenty to drink. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the Case Pond lot on Birch Mountain Road in Manchester. From I-384 east, take exit 4 and at end of exit take a left on Wyllys Street. Take a right at traffic light onto Highland Street (Route 534) and immediately after passing under I-384, take right onto Birch Mountain Road, finally right into parking lot. RSVP by 09/21 to Jeff at 860-794-9739.

Saturday, September 22, 9:00a - Humaston Brook State Scenic Reserve, Litchfield: A 6-mile hike to waterfalls and old mill remains. If time allows there will be a visit to the Mountain Spring Nature Trail. Rating: C3. No kids but well-managed dogs OK. Hiking boots only. Bring lunch and drinks. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the Portland Police Station parking lot on Main Street between Freestone and Waverly Avenues. RSVP by 09/21 to John at 860-342-0658.

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FOR THE ENJOYMENT AND SAFETY OF EVERYONE, PLEASE KNOW YOUR LIMITS AND HIKE TO YOUR ABILITY

Sunday, September 23, 8:30a - Portland Section of the Air Line Trail and Palmer-Taylor Preserve, Portland:

This will be about a 6- to 7-mile hike featuring this new section of the Air Line Trail along with a visit to a beautiful preserve. Rating: C2. Kids who can keep up are welcome as are well-managed dogs. Hiking boots only. Bring snack & drink. Steady rain cancels. Meet at the new Portland trailhead on Middle Haddam Road (which is 0.3 mile east of the junction of Route 66 and Middle Haddam Road) at 8:30. RSVP by 09/22 to Steve by text or phone at 860-301-8661.

Tuesday, September 25, 9:00a - Connecticut River in Segments - Wethersfield Cove to the Rocky Hill Ferry, Wethersfield / Rocky Hill:

A paddle of 8 to 11.5 miles down the CT River from the boat launch in Wethersfield Cove to the launch at the Rocky Hill Ferry (Rocky Hill side). A car spot is necessary. Rating: P2. No kids but well-managed dogs OK. Provide your own boat with a PFD and a safety whistle. Bring lunch and drinks. Thunderstorms cancel. Meet at the Portland Police Station parking lot on Main Street between Freestone and Waverly Avenues at 9:00 or the Wethersfield Cove boat launch, 533 Main Street in Wethersfield at 9:20. RSVP by 09/25 to Tony at 860-490-5584 or arazel@comcast.net.

Tuesday, September 25, 9:00a - Chatfield Hollow State Park, Killingworth:

A 6-mile hike on the east loop. Rating: C1. No kids or dogs. Hiking boots only. Bring water and snacks. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the Chatfield Hollow State Park lot on Route 80. From Route 9 take exit 9, follow route 81 south and then take route 80 west (right) for 1.1 miles to park entrance on right. RSVP by 09/24 to Alan at 860-510-3870.

Wednesday, September 26, 9:00a - Branford Trail - The Beacon Hill Section, Branford:

An 8-mile hike in the Beacon Hill section near the Long Island Sound Rating: C3. No kids but well-managed dogs OK. Hiking boots only. Bring lunch and drinks. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the Portland Police Station parking lot on Main Street between Freestone and Waverly Avenues. RSVP by 09/25 to John at 860-342-0658.

Saturday, September 29, 9:00a - Club Annual Meeting and Picnic at Hurd Park, East Hampton:

A 3- to 5-mile hike in the park followed by the club's Annual Meeting. Rating: C3. Kids and well-managed dogs OK. Hiking boots only. Bring lunch, drinks, and food to share. Go regardless of weather. Meet at the Hurd State Park shelter. From intersection of Routes 66 and 151 in Cobalt, drive south on Route 151 for 2.5 miles. At traffic light, take right onto Hurd Park Road and drive to the park entrance in 0.6 miles. Take the park road for about ½ mile and make a right turn to travel to the shelter and ball field which is about ¼ mile up the hill. RSVP by 09/29 to Tony at 860-490-5584 or arazel@comcast.net.

Sunday, September 30, 9:00a - Devil's Hopyard State Park, East Haddam:

A roughly 7-plus-mile hike with option to bail at the halfway point. Always worth a look at the Falls! Rating: C3. Kids and well-managed dogs OK. Hiking boots only. Bring food and plenty to drink. Bad weather cancels. Meet at the Chapman Falls parking lot at the Hopyard. From Moodus, take Route 151 (Town Street) south for 2.8 miles, turn left on Mt. Parnassus Road (Route 434), drive 5.9 miles, turn right on Hopyard Road (Route 434), drive 0.8 miles for a left turn on Foxtown Road. The lot is on the left immediately. RSVP by 09/29 to Jeff at 860-794-9739.